From: Seager, Cheryl

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 9:56 AM

To: Tomiak, Robert Subject: FW: CBP letter Attachments: CBP Letter.pdf

Start of emails.

From: Gray, David

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 8:54 AM

To: Blanco, Arturo; Seager, Cheryl; Gilrein, Stephen; Houston, Robert

Subject: RE: CBP letter

Thanks Arturo. Yes, coordination will be extremely important and our comments should be limited to our authorities. If we don't have clear authority, we should defer to federal agencies that do. I am copying Cheryl and her team in case they have received a similar request from CBP. They can also check in with HQ Office of Policy. I will also alert Ken Wagner to the request.

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Date: July 11, 2018 at 6:23:17 AM MDT

To: "Blanco, Arturo" <Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>, "Rincon, Carlos" <rincon.carlos@epa.gov>, "Hayden,

Keith" < Hayden. Keith@epa.gov >

Cc: "Almodovar, Lisa" < Almodovar. Lisa@epa.gov>

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(b) (5) Please let me

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Thank you and kindest regards,

Marta

Marta E. Jordan | Environmental Protection Specialist | US EPA | OITA-ORBA| Border 2020 Program (US-Mex)

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (MC:2650R) | Washington, DC 20460 (202)564-3694 | jordan.marta@epa.gov

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**Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Attachments: consolidated appropriations act 2018.pdf; EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall

Scoping Request.docx

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**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2018 12:56 PM

**To:** Seager, Cheryl

**Cc:** Saunders, Jerry; Hayden, Keith **Subject:** EPA response to the CBP Letter

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Robert Houston Chief, Special Projects Section U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 (6EN-WS)

Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (b) (6)

eMail: houston.robert@epa.gov

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SEC. 225. Section 423 of title 14, United States Code, is

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SEC. 227. None of the funds made available to the United States Secret Service by this Act or by previous appropriations Acts may be made available for the protection of the head of a Federal agency other than the Secretary of Homeland Security: *Provided*, That the Director of the United States Secret Service may enter into agreements to provide such protection on a fully

reimbursable basis.

Sec. 228. For purposes of section 503(a)(3) of this Act, up to \$15,000,000 may be reprogrammed within "United States Secret

Service—Operations and Support".

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SEC. 230. (a) Of the amount made available in this Act under "U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements", \$1,571,000,000 shall be available only as fol-

lows:

- (1) \$251,000,000 for approximately 14 miles of secondary fencing, all of which provides for cross-barrier visual situational awareness, along the southwest border in the San Diego Sector;
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- (3) \$196,000,000 for primary pedestrian fencing along the southwest border in the Rio Grande Valley Sector;
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(b) The amounts designated in subsection (a)(2) through (a)(4) shall only be available for operationally effective designs deployed as of the date of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, (Public Law 115–31), such as currently deployed steel bollard designs, that prioritize agent safety.

(c) None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana

National Wildlife Refuge.

SEC. 231. (a) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a risk-based plan for improving security along the borders of the United States, including the use of personnel, fencing, other forms of tactical infrastructure, and technology, to include—

(1) A statement of goals, objectives, activities, and mile-

stones for the plan.

(2) A detailed implementation schedule for the plan with estimates for the planned obligation of funds for fiscal years 2019 through 2027 that are linked to the milestone-based delivery of specific—

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### H. R. 1625-271

wildlife, of the construction and placement of physical barriers planned along the Southwest border, including in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge; and

(11) Certifications by the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Management, that—

(A) the plan has been reviewed and approved in accordance with an acquisition review management process that complies with capital planning and investment control and review requirements established by the Office of Management and Budget, including as provided in Circular A-11, part 7; and

(B) all activities under the plan comply with Federal acquisition rules, requirements, guidelines, and practices.

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#### TITLE III

### PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

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<gilrein.stephen@epa.gov>; Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov>

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**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 10:13 AM

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It was mailed 6/29 - we were planning on a July 27 date.

Sent from my iPhone

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Stephen <gilrein.stephen@epa.gov>; Houston, Robert <<u>Houston.Robert@epa.gov</u>>

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1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (MC:2650R) | Washington, DC 20460 (202)564-3694 <u>jordan.marta@epa.gov</u>

From: Tomiak, Robert

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 10:23 AM

To: Seager, Cheryl

**Subject:** FW: CBP letter on border barriers: request for scoping comments

Attachments: CBP Letter.pdf

FYSA; will let you know what I hear back from my DHS colleague.

Rob

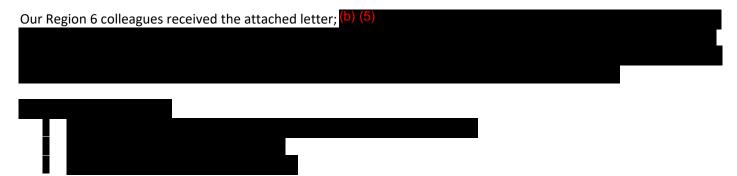
From: Tomiak, Robert

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 10:22 AM

To:

Subject: CBP letter on border barriers: request for scoping comments





Appreciate any insight you may have.

From: (b) (6)

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 11:50 AM

To: (b) (6)

**Subject:** RE: CBP letter on border barriers: request for scoping comments

— will check and let you know .. Thanks!

(b) (6) LEED AP

Executive Director, Sustainability and Environmental Programs
Office of the Chief Readiness Support Officer

Department of Homeland Security

Cell (b) (6)

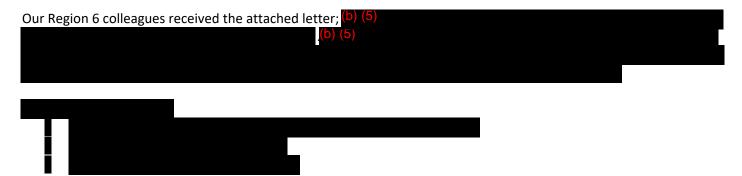
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To: (b) (6)

Subject: CBP letter on border barriers: request for scoping comments

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Appreciate any insight you may have.

From: Tomiak, Robert

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 12:32 PM
To: Feeley, Drew (Robert); Knight, Kelly

**Subject:** FW: CBP letter on border barriers: request for scoping comments

Attachments: CBP Letter.pdf

FYSA; R6 counterpart shared the attached letter request from CBP. I've reached out to DHS to seek clarification for R6 on the following:



### (b) (5)

Given that R6's RA is in town; we'll plan on mentioning this to Brittany during the 1:45 pm check-in and indicating that we are assisting R6 in tracking down answers to key questions that will help guide their response.

From: Knight, Kelly

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 12:44 PM

To: Tomiak, Robert

**Subject:** RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd.docx

Rob,

I spoke with Robert. (b) (5)

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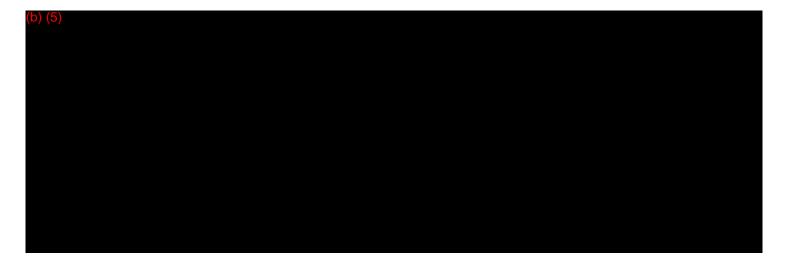
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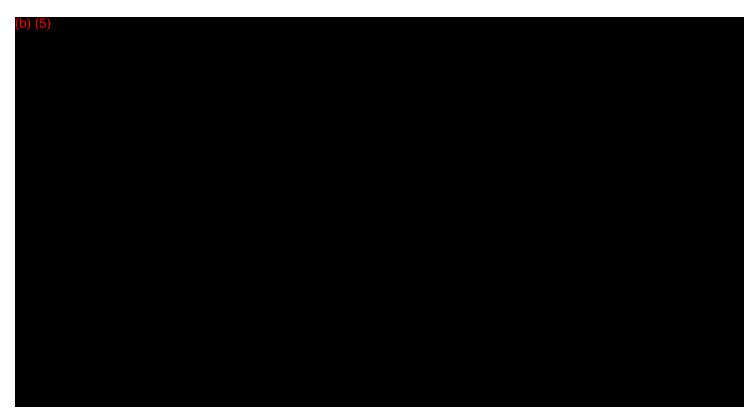
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Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (b) (6)

eMail: houston.robert@epa.gov



From: Knight, Kelly

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 1:06 PM

To: Tomiak, Robert

**Subject:** RE: CBP letter on border barriers: request for scoping comments

Rob – (b) (5)

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From: Tomiak, Robert

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 1:10 PM

To: Knight, Kelly

**Subject:** RE: CBP letter on border barriers: request for scoping comments

(0) (3)

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Subject: RE: CBP letter on border barriers: request for scoping comments

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Subject: FW: CBP letter on border barriers: request for scoping comments

FYSA; R6 counterpart shared the attached letter request from CBP. I've reached out to DHS to seek clarification for R6 on the following:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Given that R6's RA is in town; we'll plan on mentioning this to Brittany during the 1:45 pm check-in and indicating that we are assisting R6 in tracking down answers to key questions that will help guide their response.

From: Houston, Robert

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 4:22 PM

To: Knight, Kelly

Cc: Saunders, Jerry; Seager, Cheryl; Tomiak, Robert; Hayden, Keith; Jansky, Michael

**Subject:** Re: Border Infrastructure CBP DHS EPA Briefing.

Attachments: CBP Briefing to EPA 031518.pdf

Kelly,

Attached is March 2018 briefing to EPA. R6 did not locate additional correspondence around the March 2018 timeframe.

Robert Houston Chief, Special Projects Section

Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (b) (6)

From: Jansky, Michael

Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 1:39 PM

To: Houston, Robert

**Cc:** Jansky, Michael; Price, Kimeka; Hayden, Keith **Subject:** Border Infrastructure CBP DHS EPA Briefing.

Hi Robert:

I have attached for your information the Briefing material discussed last Friday. The call lasted for over an hour and half. At this point in time it appears the 2017 work will be conducted under the DHS Security Waiver. All areas impacted by the replacement process have been previously disturbed so construction impacts should be minimal.

Sincerely,

Mjansky 214-665-7451

From: Tomiak, Robert

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 12:50 PM

To: Knight, Kelly

**Subject:** RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter



Thanks, Rob

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 12:44 PM

To: Tomiak, Robert

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Rob,

I spoke with Robert. (b) (5)

I have provided some edits/suggestions. (b) (5)

From: Tomiak, Robert

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 10:12 AM

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Subject: FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Has Robert broached this with you? Come swing by to discuss when you have time.

Thanks, Rob

From: Seager, Cheryl

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 9:57 AM

To: Tomiak, Robert < tomiak.robert@epa.gov > Subject: FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

From: Houston, Robert

**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2018 12:56 PM **To:** Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>

Cc: Saunders, Jerry <Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov>; Hayden, Keith <Hayden.Keith@epa.gov>

Subject: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Below are options prepared by the NEPA Program in response to the CBP Scoping request letter, most-to-least preferred:



Robert Houston Chief, Special Projects Section U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 (6EN-WS)

Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (6)

eMail: houston.robert@epa.gov

From: Tomiak, Robert

Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:43 PM

To: Kasman, Mark

**Cc:** Seager, Cheryl; Knight, Kelly

**Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd.docx

Mark,

Tried calling.....I understand from R6 that OITA might sign out a response to CBP on this subject....?? If so, let's please confer and compare notes before you do.

BTW....I have reached out to my DHS counterpart seeking clarification that might help us.

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Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

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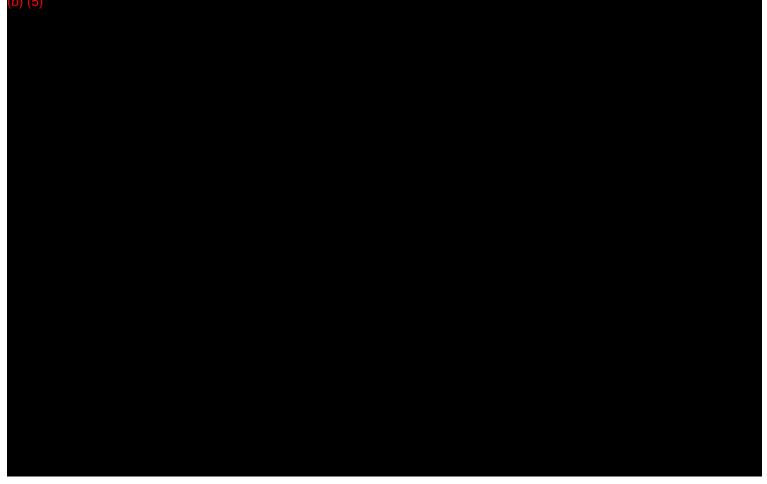
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Office: (214) 665-8565

Mobile: (b) (6)

eMail: houston.robert@epa.gov

From: Tomiak, Robert

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 4:19 PM

To: Knight, Kelly

**Subject:** Re: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Ok, thanks...I'll follow up via Elaine.

Thanks, Rob

On Jul 18, 2018, at 4:13 PM, Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov> wrote:

No, I hadn't heard. I am out tomorrow and Friday – did you forget? Candi will be in. I've asked Elaine to be acting.

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Cc: Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

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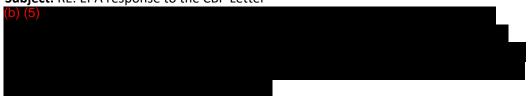
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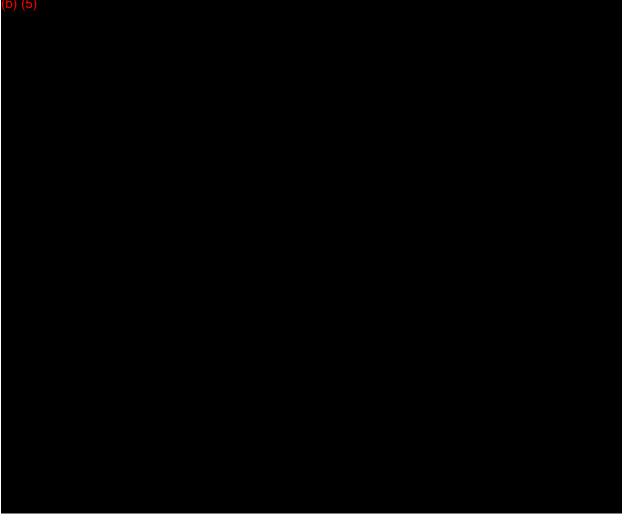
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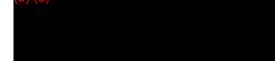
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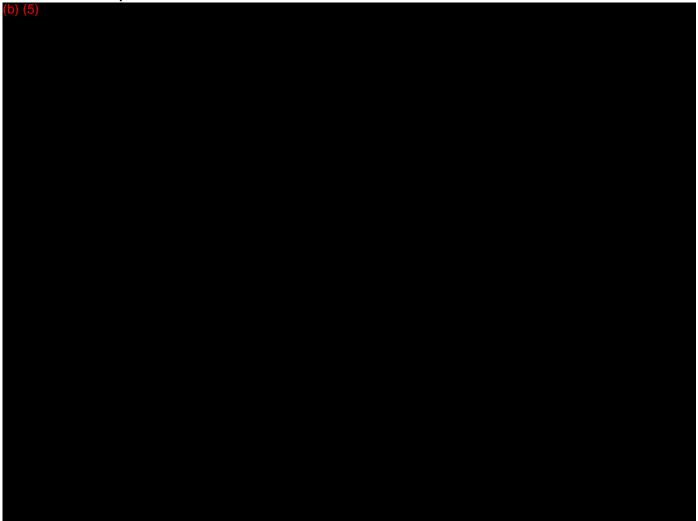
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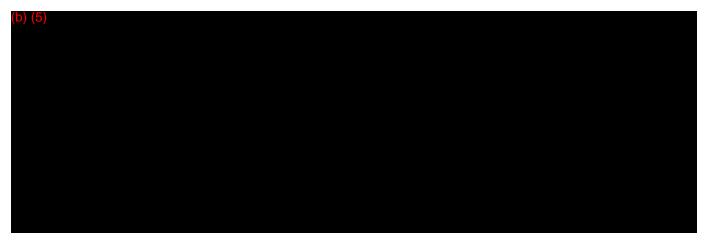
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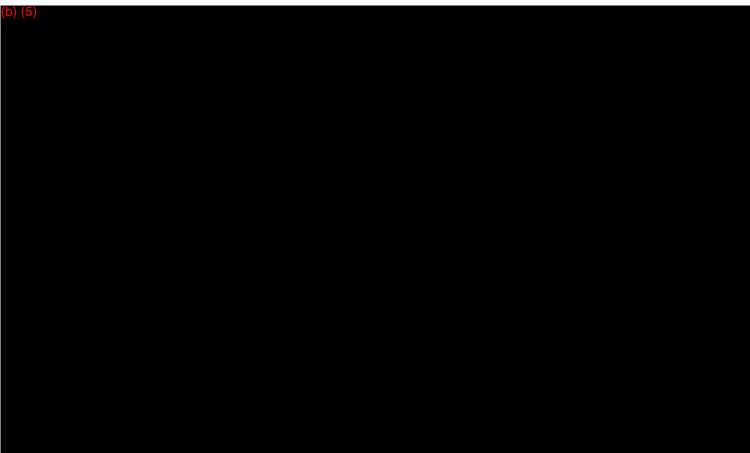
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Robert Houston Chief, Special Projects Section U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 (6EN-WS) Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (b) (6)

From: Knight, Kelly

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 7:34 AM **To:** Tomiak, Robert; Feeley, Drew (Robert)

Subject: DHS waiver for Border wall

Drew/Rob,



**Thanks** 

# DHS Issues Waiver to Expedite Border Construction Projects in San Diego Area

Release Date:

August 1, 2017

For Immediate Release

Office of the Press Secretary

Contact: 202-282-8010

WASHINGTON – The Department of Homeland Security has issued a waiver to waive certain laws, regulations and other legal requirements to ensure the expeditious construction of barriers and roads in the vicinity of the international border near San Diego. The waiver will be published in the Federal Register in the coming days.

This waiver is pursuant to authority granted to the Secretary of Homeland Security by Congress and covers a variety of environmental, natural resource, and land management laws.

The Department has exercised the waiver authority in Section 102 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA), as amended, on five previous occasions from 2005 to 2008.

The waiver covers certain border infrastructure projects in the United States Border Patrol's San Diego Sector, one of the busiest sectors in the nation. In fiscal year 2016 alone, the United States Border Patrol apprehended more than 31,000 illegal aliens and seized 9,167 pounds of marijuana and 1,317 pounds of cocaine in the San Diego Sector.

The sector remains an area of high illegal entry for which there is an immediate need to improve current infrastructure and construct additional border barriers and roads. To begin to meet the need for additional border infrastructure in this area, DHS will implement various border infrastructure projects. These projects will focus on an approximately 15-mile segment of the border within the San Diego Sector that starts at the Pacific Ocean and extends eastward, to approximately one mile east of what is known as Border Monument 251.

Congress provided the Secretary of Homeland Security with a number of authorities necessary to carry out DHS's border security mission. One of these authorities is found at section 102 of the IIRIRA.

Section 102(a) of IIRIRA provides that the Secretary of Homeland Security shall take such actions as may be necessary to install additional physical barriers and roads in the vicinity of the United States border to deter illegal crossings in areas of high illegal entry into the United States. In section 102(b) of IIRIRA, Congress has called for the installation of additional fencing, barriers, roads, lighting, cameras, and sensors on the southwest border. Finally, in section 102(c) of IIRIRA, Congress granted to the Secretary of Homeland Security the authority to waive all legal requirements that the Secretary, in his sole discretion, determines necessary to ensure the expeditious construction of the barriers and roads authorized by section 102 of IIRIRA.

The Department is implementing President Trump's Executive Order 13767, Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements, and continues to take steps to immediately plan, design and construct a physical wall along the southern border, using appropriate materials and technology to most effectively achieve complete operational control of the southern border.

While the waiver eliminates DHS's obligation to comply with various laws with respect to covered projects, the Department remains committed to environmental stewardship with respect to these projects. DHS has been coordinating and consulting -- and intends to continue doing so -- with other federal and state resource agencies to ensure impacts to the environment, wildlife, and cultural and historic artifacts are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible.

Kelly Knight
Director, NEPA Compliance Division
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-2141 (office)

(b) (6) (cell)

From: Knight, Kelly

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 8:05 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

Cc: Trice, Jessica; Barnhart, Megan; Roemele, Julie; Hessert, Aimee; Suriano, Elaine; Rountree,

Marthea

**Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Attachments: consolidated appropriations act 2018.pdf; EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall

Scoping Request.docx; CBP Letter.pdf; EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping

Request-ncd.docx

As discussed at our meeting yesterday. (b) (5)



My recommended edits are also attached FYSA.

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Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (6) (6)

engineering unit unless specifically authorized by a statute enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 224. Funds made available for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism under the heading "Coast Guard—Operating Expenses" may be allocated by program, project, and activity, notwithstanding section 503 of this Act.

SEC. 225. Section 423 of title 14, United States Code, is

amended by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

"(d) In addition to amounts computed pursuant to subsections (a) through (c) of this section, a full TSP member (as defined in section 8440e(a) of title 5) of the Coast Guard is entitled to

continuation pay pursuant to section 356 of title 37.".

SEC. 226. The United States Secret Service is authorized to obligate funds in anticipation of reimbursements from Federal agencies and entities, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code, for personnel receiving training sponsored by the James J. Rowley Training Center, except that total obligations at the end of the fiscal year shall not exceed total budgetary resources available under the heading "United States Secret Service—Operations and Support" at the end of the fiscal year.

SEC. 227. None of the funds made available to the United States Secret Service by this Act or by previous appropriations Acts may be made available for the protection of the head of a Federal agency other than the Secretary of Homeland Security: *Provided*, That the Director of the United States Secret Service may enter into agreements to provide such protection on a fully

reimbursable basis.

Sec. 228. For purposes of section 503(a)(3) of this Act, up to \$15,000,000 may be reprogrammed within "United States Secret

Service—Operations and Support".

Sec. 229. Funding made available in this Act for "United States Secret Service—Operations and Support" is available for travel of United States Secret Service employees on protective missions without regard to the limitations on such expenditures in this or any other Act if the Director of the United States Secret Service or a designee notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives 10 or more days in advance, or as early as practicable, prior to such expenditures.

SEC. 230. (a) Of the amount made available in this Act under "U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements", \$1,571,000,000 shall be available only as fol-

lows:

(1) \$251,000,000 for approximately 14 miles of secondary fencing, all of which provides for cross-barrier visual situational awareness, along the southwest border in the San Diego Sector;

(2) \$445,000,000 for 25 miles of primary pedestrian levee fencing along the southwest border in the Rio Grande Valley

Sector:

- (3) \$196,000,000 for primary pedestrian fencing along the southwest border in the Rio Grande Valley Sector;
- (4) \$445,000,000 for replacement of existing primary pedestrian fencing along the southwest border;
- (5) \$38,000,000 for border barrier planning and design;
- (6) \$196,000,000 for acquisition and deployment of border security technology.

(b) The amounts designated in subsection (a)(2) through (a)(4) shall only be available for operationally effective designs deployed as of the date of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, (Public Law 115–31), such as currently deployed steel bollard designs, that prioritize agent safety.

(c) None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana

National Wildlife Refuge.

SEC. 231. (a) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a risk-based plan for improving security along the borders of the United States, including the use of personnel, fencing, other forms of tactical infrastructure, and technology, to include—

(1) A statement of goals, objectives, activities, and mile-

stones for the plan.

(2) A detailed implementation schedule for the plan with estimates for the planned obligation of funds for fiscal years 2019 through 2027 that are linked to the milestone-based delivery of specific—

(A) capabilities and services;

(B) mission benefits and outcomes;

(C) program management capabilities; and

(D) lifecycle cost estimates.

(3) A description of the manner in which specific projects under the plan will enhance border security goals and objectives and address the highest priority border security needs.

(4) An identification of the planned locations, quantities, and types of resources, such as fencing, other physical barriers, or other tactical infrastructure and technology, under the plan.

(5) A description of the methodology and analyses used to select specific resources for deployment to particular locations under the plan that includes—

(A) analyses of alternatives, including comparative costs and benefits:

(B) an assessment of effects on communities and property owners near areas of infrastructure deployment; and

(C) a description of other factors critical to the decision-

making process.

(6) An identification of staffing requirements under the plan, including full-time equivalents, contractors, and detailed personnel, by activity.

(7) A description of performance metrics for the plan for assessing and reporting on the contributions of border security capabilities realized from current and future investments.

- (8) A description of the status of the actions of the Department of Homeland Security to address open recommendations by the Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office relating to border security, including plans, schedules, and associated milestones for fully addressing such recommendations.
- (9) A plan to consult State and local elected officials on the eminent domain and construction process relating to physical barriers;
- (10) An analysis, following consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, of the environmental impacts, including on

#### H.R. 1625-271

wildlife, of the construction and placement of physical barriers planned along the Southwest border, including in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge; and

(11) Certifications by the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Management, that—

(A) the plan has been reviewed and approved in accordance with an acquisition review management process that complies with capital planning and investment control and review requirements established by the Office of Management and Budget, including as provided in Circular A-11, part 7; and

(B) all activities under the plan comply with Federal acquisition rules, requirements, guidelines, and practices.

(b) The Secretary shall concurrently submit the plan required in subsection (a) to the Comptroller General of the United States, who shall evaluate the plan and report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the strengths and weaknesses of such plan not later than 120 days after receiving such plan.

#### TITLE III

#### PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

#### NATIONAL PROTECTION AND PROGRAMS DIRECTORATE

#### OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the National Protection and Programs Directorate for operations and support, \$1,482,165,000, of which \$8,912,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$3,825 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

#### FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE

The revenues and collections of security fees credited to this account shall be available until expended for necessary expenses related to the protection of federally owned and leased buildings and for the operations of the Federal Protective Service.

### PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the National Protection and Programs Directorate for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$414,111,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

#### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the National Protection and Programs Directorate for research and development, \$15,126,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.





Schaedle, Candi From:

Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 1:11 PM

To: Knight, Kelly

RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter Subject:

I'll have the HQ letter review team also review

the letter when I'm done drafting it. It is due by July 30<sup>th</sup>.

From: Knight, Kelly

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 8:05 AM To: Schaedle, Candi <Schaedle.Candi@epa.gov>

Cc: Trice, Jessica <Trice.Jessica@epa.gov>; Barnhart, Megan <br/>barnhart.megan@epa.gov>; Roemele, Julie

<Roemele.Julie@epa.gov>; Hessert, Aimee <Hessert.Aimee@epa.gov>; Suriano, Elaine <Suriano.Elaine@epa.gov>;

Rountree, Marthea < Rountree. Marthea@epa.gov> Subject: FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

As discussed at our meeting yesterday. (b) (5)

My recommended edits are also attached FYSA.

From: Tomiak, Robert

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 10:12 AM To: Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov> **Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Has Robert broached this with you? Come swing by to discuss when you have time.

Thanks, Rob

From: Seager, Cheryl

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 9:57 AM

To: Tomiak, Robert <tomiak.robert@epa.gov> **Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

From: Houston, Robert

Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 12:56 PM To: Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>

Cc: Saunders, Jerry <<u>Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov</u>>; Hayden, Keith <<u>Hayden.Keith@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Below are options prepared by the NEPA Program in response to the CBP Scoping request letter, most-to-least preferred:



Robert Houston Chief, Special Projects Section U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 (6EN-WS)

Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (6) (6)

From:

Schaedle, Candi Thursday, July 19, 2018 12:50 PM Hayden, Keith Sent:

To:

Subject: R6 response to the CBP Letter

High Importance:

Hi Keith,

I rewrote the R6 letter to make it more applicable to the project – (b) (5)

ight now, the draft if being reviewed by the HQ letter review team.

We did hear from your Region that OITA may be signing out the letter – have you heard this?

From: Schaedle, Candi

**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 6:28 PM

To: Hayden, Keith

**Subject:** RE: R6 response to the CBP Letter

Hi Keith,

It looks like I'll have the letter ready to go to you on Friday

From: Hayden, Keith

**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 1:03 PM

**To:** Schaedle, Candi < Schaedle.Candi@epa.gov> **Subject:** RE: R6 response to the CBP Letter

Yes, I heard that. I was involved in drafting the original letter based on feedback from our senior managers. I haven't seen the letter after that and (b) (5)

Just get me a copy of the letter as soon as you can. Also share it with Robert Houston so he can pass along to R6 senior leaders.

Sincerely,

Keith Hayden

Environmental Scientist/NEPA Specialist

Mail Code: 6EN-WS USEPA - Region 6 1445 Ross Ave. Dallas, TX 75202

e: hayden.keith@epa.gov

p: 214.665.2133

From: Schaedle, Candi

Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 11:50 AM

To: Hayden, Keith < Hayden.Keith@epa.gov >
Subject: R6 response to the CBP Letter

Importance: High

Hi Keith,

I rewrote the R6 letter to make it more applicable to the project – (b) (5)

ight now, the draft if being reviewed by the HQ letter review team.

We did hear from your Region that OITA may be signing out the letter – have you heard this?

From: Schaedle, Candi

Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 12:38 PM
To: Suriano, Elaine; Rountree, Marthea

**Subject:** FOR QUICK REVIEW: R6 CBP border barrier comment letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd.docx

Importance: High

As part of the Consolidation Appropriations Act, CBP is required to submit an analysis, following consultation with DOI and EPA of the environmental impacts, including on wildlife, of the construction and placement of physical barriers planned along the Southwest border, including in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge.

Attached is the letter for your review (b) (5)

A big thank you for your assistance on this!







From:

Schaedle, Candi Thursday, July 19, 2018 1:04 PM Suriano, Elaine; Rountree, Marthea R6 response to the CBP Letter Sent: To: Subject: Attachments:

EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd.docx

Importance: High

I changed the conclusion paragraph since (b) (5)







From: Schaedle, Candi

**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:13 PM

To: Suriano, Elaine

**Subject:** FW: R6 response to the CBP Letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd.docx

Importance: High

Here is the version that incorporates Marthea's edits

From: Schaedle, Candi

Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 1:04 PM

To: Suriano, Elaine <Suriano.Elaine@epa.gov>; Rountree, Marthea <Rountree.Marthea@epa.gov>

**Subject:** R6 response to the CBP Letter

Importance: High

I changed the conclusion paragraph since (b) (5)







From: Suriano, Elaine

Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:19 PM
To: Schaedle, Candi

To: Schaedle, Ca Subject: ES Review

Attachments: R6 response to the CBP Letter; 5 31 18 es General Comments USFS ANPRM 228A.docx

Elaine Suriano
Environmental Scientist
Office of Federal Activities (2252A)
WJC South - 7235C
1200 Penna. Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460
PH 202 564 7162 - FX 202 564 0070
suriano.elaine@epa.gov







From: Schaedle, Candi

Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Knight, Kelly; Tomiak, Robert
Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd.docx

Importance: High

For your review and consideration is a rewrite of the R6 letter (b) (5)

I spoke with Keith Hayden and he confirmed that OITA may be signing out the letter but he didn't know who in the management chain. He did recommend that we send the letter to him and Robert Houston once you are okay with it as drafted. I also had Elaine and Marthea review the letter and I've incorporated their comments.

Thanks!







From: Schaedle, Candi

Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 7:26 PM To: Tomiak, Robert; Suriano, Elaine

Cc: Knight, Kelly

**Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.2.docx

Importance: High

Rob and Elaine,

Attached for your review and consideration is a corrected version (b) (5)

Please let me know if you have any other corrections to the letter.

Many thanks for your help to improve the letter!

From: Schaedle, Candi

Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 3:00 PM

To: Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>; Tomiak, Robert <tomiak.robert@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Importance: High

For your review and consideration is a (5) (5)

I spoke with Keith Hayden and he confirmed that OITA may be signing out the letter but he didn't know who in the management chain. He did recommend that we send the letter to him and Robert Houston once you are okay with it as drafted. I also had Elaine and Marthea review the letter and I've incorporated their comments.

Thanks!





From: Schaedle, Candi

**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 7:48 PM **To:** Tomiak, Robert; Suriano, Elaine

Cc: Knight, Kelly

**Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3.docx

Importance: High

Sorry – in this version the reference to NEPAssist was moved to the front of the letter for flow.

From: Schaedle, Candi

Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 7:26 PM

To: Tomiak, Robert <tomiak.robert@epa.gov>; Suriano, Elaine <Suriano.Elaine@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov> **Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Importance: High

Rob and Elaine,

Attached for your review and consideration is a (b) (5)

Please let me know if you have any other corrections to the letter.

Many thanks for your help to improve the letter!

From: Schaedle, Candi

Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 3:00 PM

To: Knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight, Kelly knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight, Kelly knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight, Kelly@epa.gov">knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight, Kelly@epa.gov">knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight, Kelly@epa.gov">knight, Kelly@epa.gov</a>>

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Importance: High

For your review and consideration is a rewrite (b) (5)

I spoke with Keith Hayden and he confirmed that OITA may be signing out the letter but he didn't know who in the management chain. He did recommend that we send the letter to him and Robert Houston once you are okay with it as drafted. I also had Elaine and Marthea review the letter and I've incorporated their comments.

Thanks!





From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 11:19 AM To: Seager, Cheryl; Kasman, Mark

Cc: Tomiak, Robert; Schaedle, Candi; Houston, Robert; Saunders, Jerry; Jordan, Marta

**Subject:** RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3.docx

#### Good Morning -

I am not sure where we stand with regard to who will respond to CBP. (b) (5)

Please let me know if we need to have a conference call to discuss.

Thank you -- Kelly

From: Seager, Cheryl

Sent: Friday, July 20, 2018 8:54 AM

To: Kasman, Mark < Kasman. Mark@epa.gov>

Cc: Tomiak, Robert <tomiak.robert@epa.gov>; Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>; Schaedle, Candi

<Schaedle.Candi@epa.gov>; Houston, Robert <Houston.Robert@epa.gov>; Saunders, Jerry <Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov>;

Jordan, Marta < Jordan. Marta@epa.gov> **Subject:** Re: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Thanks everyone - (b) (5)

I'm happy to talk today or on Monday if it's better to wait until Marta is back. I do know that David Gray wants to share the draft response with Ken Wagner, so we will probably need to get a draft to David Monday to have enough lead time to respond within the 30 days. (5) (5)

Thanks for all of your help with this.

**Cheryl Seager** 

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 20, 2018, at 7:04 AM, Kasman, Mark < Kasman.Mark@epa.gov > wrote:

(b) (5)

Thanks, Mark

Mark S. Kasman
Director
Office of Regional and Bilateral Affairs
Office of International and Tribal Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

TEL: 202-564-2024 FAX: 202-565-2412

From: Tomiak, Robert

**Sent:** Friday, July 20, 2018 7:53 AM

To: Kasman, Mark < <a href="mailto:Kasman.Mark@epa.gov">Kasman, Mark < <a href="mailto:Kasman.Mark@epa.gov">Kasman.Mark@epa.gov</a>>

**Cc:** Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov >; Schaedle, Candi < Schaedle.Candi@epa.gov >; Houston, Robert

<<u>Houston.Robert@epa.gov</u>>; Saunders, Jerry <<u>Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Mark,

Thanks for your voice mail; it (5)

Cheryl.....do you have a preference? Perhaps touch base with Mark today.....and if needed, I can facilitate a short 3-way call between us.....and let's seek consensus on who is going to respond on behalf of the agency. Then let's execute......

Thanks, Rob

From: Tomiak, Robert

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:43 PM **To:** Kasman, Mark < <u>Kasman.Mark@epa.gov</u>>

Cc: Seager, Cheryl < Seager. Cheryl@epa.gov >; Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov >

**Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Mark,

Tried calling.....I understand from R6 that OITA might sign out a response to CBP on this subject....?? If so, let's please confer and compare notes before you do.

BTW....I have reached out to my DHS counterpart seeking clarification that might help us.

Thanks, Rob

From: Tomiak, Robert

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 12:50 PM

To: Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov >
Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter



Thanks, Rob

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 12:44 PM

**To:** Tomiak, Robert < tomiak.robert@epa.gov > **Subject:** RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Rob,

I spoke with Robert. (b) (5)
provided some edits/suggestions. (b) (5)

From: Tomiak, Robert

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 10:12 AM

To: Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov >
Subject: FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Has Robert broached this with you? Come swing by to discuss when you have time.

Thanks, Rob

**From:** Seager, Cheryl

Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 9:57 AM

**To:** Tomiak, Robert < tomiak.robert@epa.gov > **Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

From: Houston, Robert

**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2018 12:56 PM **To:** Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>

Cc: Saunders, Jerry < Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov >; Hayden, Keith < Hayden.Keith@epa.gov >

**Subject:** EPA response to the CBP Letter

Below are options prepared by the NEPA Program in response to the CBP Scoping request letter, most-to-least preferred:



Robert Houston Chief, Special Projects Section U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 (6EN-WS) Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (b) (6)

eMail: houston.robert@epa.gov





From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:29 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

**Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:23 PM

To: Kime, Robin < Kime.Robin@epa.gov>; Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Thanks Robin. We should considered bringing this up in tomorrow's update.

From: Kime, Robin

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:21 PM
To: Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Cc: Feeley, Drew (Robert) < Feeley. Drew@epa.gov > Subject: FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Hi Kelly-Touching base to see if this rings a bell and what, if anything we need to do. Thank you!

From: Gray, David

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:08 PM

To: Kime, Robin <Kime.Robin@epa.gov>; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; Nishida, Jane

< Nishida. Jane@epa.gov >

**Subject:** EPA response to the CBP Letter

I mentioned this response to Customs Border Patrol on today's VTC meeting. Thanks to your team for working with us. It should go out today.

David

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:28 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

**Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

From: Kime, Robin

**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 3:30 PM **To:** Knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov</a> **Subject:** RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

**Thanks** 

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:26 PM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) <Feeley.Drew@epa.gov>; Kime, Robin <Kime.Robin@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Drew/Robin -

#### (b) (5)

#### Thanks

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:23 PM

To: Kime, Robin <<u>Kime.Robin@epa.gov</u>>; Knight, Kelly <<u>knight.kelly@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Thanks Robin. We should considered bringing this up in tomorrow's update.

From: Kime, Robin

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:21 PM
To: Knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov</a>

Cc: Feeley, Drew (Robert) < Feeley. Drew@epa.gov > Subject: FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Hi Kelly-Touching base to see if this rings a bell and what, if anything we need to do. Thank you!

From: Gray, David

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:08 PM

To: Kime, Robin <Kime.Robin@epa.gov>; Wagner, Kenneth <wagner.kenneth@epa.gov>; Nishida, Jane

<Nishida.Jane@epa.gov>

Subject: EPA response to the CBP Letter

I mentioned this response to Customs Border Patrol on today's VTC meeting. Thanks to your team for working with us. It should go out today.

David

Knight, Kelly From:

Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:27 AM Sent:

Schaedle, Candi To: FW: CBP letter Subject:

Importance: High

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:09 AM

To: Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Houston, Robert <Houston.Robert@epa.gov>

Subject: CBP letter Importance: High

Can you please let me know if the letter has been signed sent? (b) (5)

Thank you -- Kelly

Kelly Knight Director, NEPA Compliance Division **Environmental Protection Agency** 202-564-2141 (office) (b) (6) (cell)

From: Knight, Kelly

Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:27 AM Sent:

To: Schaedle, Candi

FW: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx Subject: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx; Attachments:

ATT00001.htm

From: Seager, Cheryl

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:14 AM To: Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov>; Gray, David < gray.david@epa.gov>

Subject: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Hi Kelly - (b) (5)

I've attached the version I sent to David.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 24, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov</a>> wrote:

Can you please let me know if the letter has been signed sent? (6)

Thank you -- Kelly

Kelly Knight Director, NEPA Compliance Division **Environmental Protection Agency** 202-564-2141 (office) (cell)





From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:26 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

FW: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx Subject: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx; Attachments:

ATT00001.htm

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:15 AM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) <Feeley.Drew@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

As requested.

**Thanks** 

From: Seager, Cheryl

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:14 AM To: Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov>; Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>

Subject: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Hi Kelly - (b) (5)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 24, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov > wrote:

Can you please let me know if the letter has been signed sent? If not, OGC has requested to review.

Thank you -- Kelly

Kelly Knight Director, NEPA Compliance Division **Environmental Protection Agency** 202-564-2141 (office)

(cell)





From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:26 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

Subject: FW: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

From: Gray, David

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:19 AM

To: Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston. Robert@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Thanks Cheryl.

From: Seager, Cheryl

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 24, 2018 8:14 AM **To:** Knight, Kelly < <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov</a>>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov >; Gray, David < gray.david@epa.gov >

Subject: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Hi Kelly - (b) (5)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 24, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov > wrote:

Can you please let me know if the letter has been signed sent? (6) (5)

Thank you -- Kelly

Kelly Knight
Director, NEPA Compliance Division
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-2141 (office)
(b) (6) (cell)

1

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:26 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

**Subject:** FW: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx **Attachments:** EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx;

ATT00001.htm

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:24 AM

To: Hoppe, Allison <a href="mailto:hoppe.allison@epa.gov">hoppe.allison@epa.gov</a>

Subject: FW: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Allison,

FYSA. (b) (5

From: Seager, Cheryl

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:14 AM **To:** Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov >; Gray, David < gray.david@epa.gov >

Subject: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Hi Kelly - (b) (5)

Sent from my iPhone

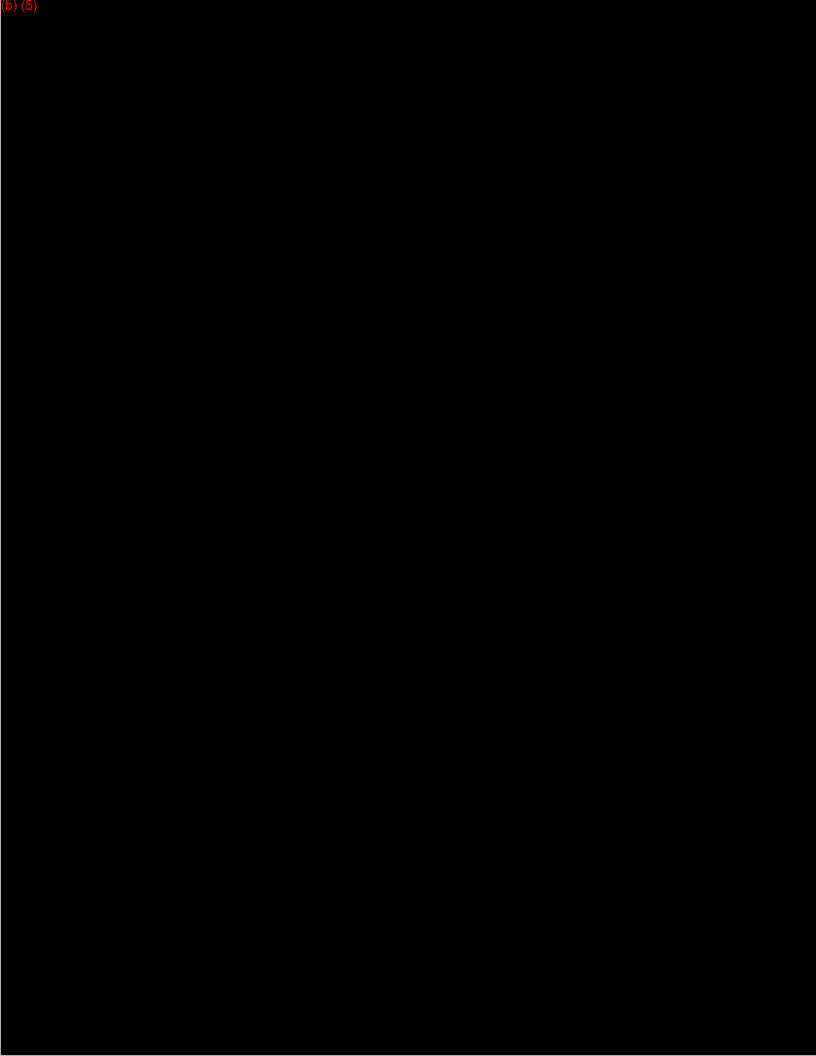
On Jul 24, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov > wrote:

Can you please let me know if the letter has been signed sent? (5)

Thank you -- Kelly

Kelly Knight
Director, NEPA Compliance Division
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-2141 (office)

(b) (6) (cell)





From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:23 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

Subject: FW: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

From: Seager, Cheryl

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 6:18 PM
To: Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov>; Gray, David < gray.david@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Hi Kelly – (b) (5)

The Region is fine with OITA signing if that's the preferred approach.

Thanks, Cheryl

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 8:35 AM

To: Gray, David <<u>gray.david@epa.gov</u>>; Seager, Cheryl <<u>Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov</u>>

**Cc:** Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov >

Subject: RE: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

We'll get back with you ASAP with any comments OGC may have.

Thanks

From: Gray, David

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:19 AM

To: Seager, Cheryl < Seager. Cheryl@epa.gov >; Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov >

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston. Robert@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Thanks Cheryl.

From: Seager, Cheryl

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 24, 2018 8:14 AM **To:** Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov>; Gray, David < gray.david@epa.gov>

Subject: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Hi Kelly - (b) (5)

Sent from my iPhone

# On Jul 24, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov > wrote:

Can you please let me know if the letter has been signed sent? (b) (5)

Thank you -- Kelly

Kelly Knight Director, NEPA Compliance Division **Environmental Protection Agency** 202-564-2141 (office) (b) (6) (cell)

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:25 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

**Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

From: Kime, Robin

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:28 AM **To:** Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov> **Subject:** RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Thanks/sorry...

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:27 AM

To: Kime, Robin < Kime.Robin@epa.gov >

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Update -(b)(5)

**Thanks** 

From: Kime, Robin

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:30 PM

To: Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov >

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

**Thanks** 

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:26 PM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) < Feeley. Drew@epa.gov >; Kime, Robin < Kime. Robin@epa.gov >

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Drew/Robin -

I included the status, as of this morning, on the draft forecast report we sent forward. NCD crafted the letter for the region's consideration. We were just unsure whether R6 or OITA would be signing it out. From the below, it appears R6 will be signing the letter.

**Thanks** 

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:23 PM

To: Kime, Robin < <a href="mailto:Kime.Robin@epa.gov">Knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov</a>>

Subject: RE: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Thanks Robin. We should considered bringing this up in tomorrow's update.

From: Kime, Robin

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:21 PM
To: Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Feeley, Drew (Robert) < Feeley. Drew@epa.gov > **Subject:** FW: EPA response to the CBP Letter

Hi Kelly-Touching base to see if this rings a bell and what, if anything we need to do. Thank you!

From: Gray, David

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:08 PM

To: Kime, Robin < Kime.Robin@epa.gov >; Wagner, Kenneth < wagner.kenneth@epa.gov >; Nishida, Jane

<Nishida.Jane@epa.gov>

Subject: EPA response to the CBP Letter

I mentioned this response to Customs Border Patrol on today's VTC meeting. Thanks to your team for working with us. It

should go out today.

David

From: Schaedle, Candi

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 24, 2018 10:18 AM

To: Knight, Kelly Subject: RE: Reference

The waiver authority is pursuant to section 102(c) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, as amended ("IIRIRA"). Congress granted to the Secretary of Homeland Security the authority to waive all legal requirements that the Secretary, in Secretary's sole discretion, determines necessary to ensure the expeditious construction of the barriers and roads authorized by section 102 of IIRIRA.

The Department exercised the waiver authority in Section 102(c) of IIRIRA on five occasions from 2005 to 2008, on two occasions in 2017, and so far on one occasion in 2018.

When DHS invokes a waiver, it is published in the Federal Register. In the past, DHS issued Environmental Stewardship Plans. In the current waivers, DHS states that "DHS has been coordinating and consulting -- and intends to continue doing so -- with other federal and state resource agencies to ensure impacts to the environment, wildlife, and cultural and historic artifacts are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible."

Below are the laws that were previously waived by DHS in their entirety, including all federal, state, or other laws, regulations, legal requirements of, deriving from, or related to the subject of, the following laws, as amended:

- National Environmental Policy Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Clean Water Act
- National Historic Preservation Act
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Clean Air Act
- Archeological Resources Protection Act
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- Noise Control Act
- Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- · Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
- Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act
- Antiquities Act
- Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
- Farmland Protection Policy Act
- Coastal Zone Management Act
- Wilderness Act
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act
- National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act
- Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
- Administrative Procedure Act
- Otay Mountain Wilderness Act of 1999
- Sections 102(29) and 103 of Title I of the California Desert Protection Act
- National Park Service Organic Act
- National Park Service General Authorities Act
- Sections 401(7), 403, and 404 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978
- Sections 301(a)-(f) of the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act

- Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
- Eagle Protection Act
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act
- Religious Freedom Restoration Act
- National Forest Management Act of 1976
- Multiple Use and Sustained Yield Act of 1960

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:34 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi <Schaedle.Candi@epa.gov>

Subject: Reference

Candi -

Could you please provide the citation/reference that shows where compliance with environmental statutes for CBP has been waived?

**Thanks** 

Kelly Knight Director, NEPA Compliance Division Environmental Protection Agency 202-564-2141 (office)

(b) (6) (cell)

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:24 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi Subject: FW: Reference

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 4:27 PM

To: Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>; Kime, Robin <Kime.Robin@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Reference

Thanks!

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 4:27 PM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) <Feeley.Drew@epa.gov>; Kime, Robin <Kime.Robin@epa.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Reference

FYSA . Info I gave Brittany. Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Schaedle, Candi" < Schaedle.Candi@epa.gov>

**Date:** July 24, 2018 at 10:17:40 AM EDT **To:** "Knight, Kelly" <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Reference

The waiver authority is pursuant to section 102(c) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, as amended ("IIRIRA"). Congress granted to the Secretary of Homeland Security the authority to waive all legal requirements that the Secretary, in Secretary's sole discretion, determines necessary to ensure the expeditious construction of the barriers and roads authorized by section 102 of IIRIRA.

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Subject: Reference

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Thanks

Kelly Knight
Director, NEPA Compliance Division

Environmental Protection Agency 202-564-2141 (office) (b) (6) (cell)

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:21 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi Subject: FW: CBP letter

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 3:04 PM **To:** Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

By COB. I want to mention it at our staff meeting. Justin had no additional comments. Sorry for the delay.

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 3:03 PM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) < Feeley. Drew@epa.gov >

Subject: CBP letter

Hi Drew -

Any idea on when I might be able to let R6 know that they can sign the letter?

#### **Thanks**

From: Knight, Kelly

**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 10:52 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi Subject: FW: CBP letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 8:13 PM **To:** Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

Also wanted to make sure this was the most recent draft, since it still has track changes.

Thanks, Drew

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 8:11 PM **To:** Knight, Kelly <<u>knight.kelly@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

Will have an answer tomorrow. Apologies for the delay.

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 3:05 PM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) <Feeley.Drew@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

Thanks much. I appreciate it.

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

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## Thanks





From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:20 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi Subject: FW: CBP letter

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 10:25 AM **To:** Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

I emailed it to Brittany first thing this morning. She indicated last night that she wanted to review it. Nothing yet. I'll keep on it.

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2018 10:24 AM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) < Feeley. Drew@epa.gov >

Subject: RE: CBP letter

Any word yet?

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 8:13 PM **To:** Knight, Kelly <<u>knight.kelly@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

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Subject: RE: CBP letter

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Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 3:05 PM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) <Feeley.Drew@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

Thanks much. I appreciate it.

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 3:04 PM

To: Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov >

Subject: RE: CBP letter

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Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 3:03 PM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) < Feeley. Drew@epa.gov >

Subject: CBP letter

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Any idea on when I might be able to let R6 know that they can sign the letter?

**Thanks** 

Kelly Knight
Director, NEPA Compliance Division
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-2141 (office)

(cell)

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:19 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

Subject: FW: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

From: Seager, Cheryl

**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 2:38 PM **To:** Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Saunders, Jerry <Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov>; Houston, Robert <Houston.Robert@epa.gov> **Subject:** Re: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Hi Kelly - any update. We were using a due date of tomorrow - but since the letters weren't dated we probably have some leeway with that.

I am out tomorrow, but Steve Gilrein will be acting for me and he can sign if we decide that the region should sign.

Thanks, Cheryl

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 24, 2018, at 5:18 PM, Seager, Cheryl < Seager. Cheryl@epa.gov > wrote:



Thanks, Cheryl

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 8:35 AM

To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov >

Subject: RE: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

We'll get back with you ASAP with any comments OGC may have.

Thanks

From: Gray, David

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:19 AM

To: Seager, Cheryl <<u>Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov</u>>; Knight, Kelly <<u>knight.kelly@epa.gov</u>>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston. Robert@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Thanks Cheryl.

From: Seager, Cheryl

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 8:14 AM
To: Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov >; Gray, David < gray.david@epa.gov >

Subject: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Hi Kelly - the letter has not been sent. I sent it to David Gray to review yesterday, so there is time for OCG to review. I made a small change in the first paragraph - I've attached the version I sent to David.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 24, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov > wrote:

Can you please let me know if the letter has been signed sent? If not, OGC has requested to review.

Thank you -- Kelly

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:19 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

Subject: FW: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

From: Knight, Kelly

**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 2:41 PM **To:** Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Saunders, Jerry <Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov>; Houston, Robert <Houston.Robert@epa.gov> **Subject:** RE: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Hi Cheryl,

We are still waiting on feedback. I believe I will have it today and the thinking is still that the letter will be signed out from R6. I will let you know as soon as I hear anything.

#### **Thanks**

From: Seager, Cheryl

**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 2:38 PM **To:** Knight, Kelly <<u>knight.kelly@epa.gov</u>>

Cc: Saunders, Jerry < Saunders. Jerry@epa.gov >; Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov > Subject: Re: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Hi Kelly - any update. (b) (5)

I am out tomorrow, but Steve Gilrein will be acting for me and he can sign if we decide that the region should sign.

Thanks, Cheryl

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 24, 2018, at 5:18 PM, Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Kelly – David is fine with the letter – (b) (5)

Thanks, Cheryl

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 8:35 AM

**To:** Gray, David <<u>gray.david@epa.gov</u>>; Seager, Cheryl <<u>Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov</u>>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov >

Subject: RE: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

We'll get back with you ASAP with any comments OGC may have.

Thanks

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Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:19 AM

To: Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Cc: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov >

Subject: RE: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Thanks Cheryl.

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Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 8:14 AM
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Hi Kelly - the letter has not been sent. (b) (5)

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On Jul 24, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov</a>> wrote:

Can you please let me know if the letter has been signed sent? (6) (5)

Thank you -- Kelly

From:

Knight, Kelly Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:18 AM Schaedle, Candi Sent:

To:

FW: Subject:

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert) **Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 9:27 AM To: Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Subject:

From: Schaedle, Candi

**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 11:33 AM

To: Knight, Kelly Subject: RE: CBP letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

Will this work?

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 10:52 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi <Schaedle.Candi@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: CBP letter

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 8:13 PM **To:** Knight, Kelly <<u>knight.kelly@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

Also wanted to make sure this was the most recent draft, since it still has track changes.

Thanks, Drew

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Subject: RE: CBP letter

Will have an answer tomorrow. Apologies for the delay.

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 3:05 PM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) <Feeley.Drew@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

Thanks much. I appreciate it.

From: Feeley, Drew (Robert)

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 3:04 PM **To:** Knight, Kelly <<u>knight.kelly@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

By COB. I want to mention it at our staff meeting. Justin had no additional comments. Sorry for the delay.

From: Knight, Kelly

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Hi Drew –

Any idea on when I might be able to let R6 know that they can sign the letter?

Thanks





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To: Schaedle, Candi Subject: FW: CBP letter

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 11:36 AM

To: Feeley, Drew (Robert) <Feeley.Drew@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: CBP letter

Is this better?

From: Schaedle, Candi

**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 11:33 AM **To:** Knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov</a>

Subject: RE: CBP letter

Will this work?

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**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 10:52 AM

**To:** Schaedle, Candi < <a href="mailto:Schaedle.Candi@epa.gov">Schaedle.Candi@epa.gov</a>>

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Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-2141 (office)

(b) (6) (cell)





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To: Schaedle, Candi Subject: FW: CBP letter

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 1:35 PM

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Subject: RE: CBP letter

Any thoughts?

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**Thanks** 

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:16 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

**Subject:** FW: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx **Attachments:** EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 1:38 PM

To: Seager, Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Saunders, Jerry <Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov>; Houston, Robert <Houston.Robert@epa.gov> **Subject:** RE: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

All,

Attached is the letter with changes annotated.

Thanks for your patience.

R, Kelly

From: Seager, Cheryl

**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 2:38 PM **To:** Knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov</a>

Cc: Saunders, Jerry < Saunders. Jerry@epa.gov >; Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov > Subject: Re: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request-ncd v.3 (002).docx

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Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 24, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Knight, Kelly <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov</a>> wrote:

Can you please let me know if the letter has been signed sent? If not, OGC has requested to review.

Thank you -- Kelly

Kelly Knight
Director, NEPA Compliance Division
Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-2141 (office)
(b) (6) (cell)

2





From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:15 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

Subject: FW: USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request - RGV Border Barrier Construction

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request.pdf

From: Houston, Robert

Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 3:26 PM To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Cc: commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov; Hayden, Keith < Hayden.Keith@epa.gov>; Seager, Cheryl < Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Gilrein, Stephen < gilrein.stephen@epa.gov>; Saunders, Jerry < Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov>; Knight, Kelly < knight.kelly@epa.gov>; Blanco, Arturo < Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>; Rincon, Carlos < rincon.carlos@epa.gov>; Gray, David < gray.david@epa.gov>; Kasman, Mark < Kasman.Mark@epa.gov>; Jordan, Marta < Jordan.Marta@epa.gov>; Almodovar, Lisa < Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>

Subject: USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request - RGV Border Barrier Construction

## (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Please find attached the electronic version of EPA's Comment Letter for the proposed project. A hardcopy will be mailed.

**Robert Houston** 

Chief, Special Projects Section U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 (6EN-WS)

Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (6) (6)

eMail: houston.robert@epa.gov



### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 6 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75202-2733

JUL 27 2018

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection U.S. Border Patrol Headquarters Program Management Office Directorate Wall Portfolio 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. 6.5E Mail Stop 1039 Washington, DC 20229-1100

# Dear(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed your undated letters to Robert Houston, EPA Region 6, and to Mark S. Kasman, EPA Headquarters, soliciting input concerning impacts associated with the proposed construction of border barriers funded by the Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2018.

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) proposes to design and construct approximately 25 miles of levee fencing in Hidalgo County, Texas and to design and construct approximately 8 miles of bollard wall in Starr County, Texas. The proposed levee wall design includes a 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the levee, detection and surveillance technology that would be incorporated into the levee wall, automated vehicle gates, pedestrian gates, an all-weather patrol road that runs parallel to the levee wall, and enforcement zone lighting. The proposed bollard wall design includes 20 to 30-foot tall steel bollards, detection and surveillance technology that would be incorporated into the bollard wall design, pedestrian gates, and an all-weather patrol road parallel to the bollard wall. It may also include a 150-foot enforcement zone on the south/river side of the bollard wall and enforcement zone lighting.

There are numerous tools available for planning purposes and the EPA suggests that you consider NEPAssist. Specifically, NEPAssist facilitates the environmental review process and project planning in relation to environmental considerations. The web-based application draws environmental data dynamically from EPA Geographic Information System databases and web services and provides immediate screening of environmental assessment indicators for a user-defined area of interest. These features contribute to a streamlined review process that potentially raises important environmental issues at the earliest stages of project development. NEPAssist is available at <a href="https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist">https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist</a>.

The construction of the border barriers has the potential to significantly increase erosion and sediment loading to the watershed from the combination of the road construction, wall installation, and vegetation clearance for the 150-foot enforcement zone. The walls may also potentially obstruct stormwater flow and potentially cause flooding. Therefore, the EPA recommends that CBP analyze the potential impacts to the watershed from erosion and stormwater runoff (e.g., changes to hydrology, sediment transport capacity, water velocity flows, channel modifications, stream bank stability, and soil disturbances) and employ best management practices, including erosion and sediment control plans. The EPA encourages

bioengineering practices (that is, using natural systems in place of traditional engineering solutions) that improve environmental quality and wildlife habitat and mitigate the impacts to the watershed.

Petroleum products or other hazardous substances may enter downstream surface waters if appropriate precautions are not taken during construction around areas where ground-disturbing activities occur. Petroleum and other hazardous substances may enter waterways through leaks from construction equipment or spills of products used during demolition and construction activities. The CBP may want to consider implementing best management practices to prevent, minimize, and control spillage of hazardous materials in the construction staging area.

The EPA also recommends that the project be designed to avoid and minimize construction-related impacts to the extent practicable on waters of the United States. Construction activities may result in impacts on waters of the United States if temporary access roads, structures, or staging areas used to construct the project are placed in or near surface waters or wetlands.

In addition, the EPA recommends that the CBP analyze the air quality impacts associated with the construction and post-construction activities. Using equipment to build the road and structures may result in low levels of particulate matter and vehicle exhaust emissions. Any ground-disturbing activities may result in airborne particulate matter. For post-construction, maintaining vegetation clearance may impact the air quality due to the amount of particulate matter generated from windblown soil. Driving on unpaved access roads or operating drag roads (which involve vehicles dragging tires or brushes behind to smooth the surface of an unpaved road so evidence of crossing is apparent) may also contribute to particulate matter air quality problems. The CBP may want to consider implementing best management practices to reduce dust and particulate emissions.

Lastly, the EPA encourages the CBP to identify community groups and actively engage environmental justice populations in community outreach throughout the environmental planning process.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed project. We look forward to the environmental planning documents related to this effort. Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Keith Hayden, on my staff, at 214-665-2133 or by e-mail at <a href="hayden.keith@epa.gov">hayden.keith@epa.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Cheryl T. Seager

Director

Compliance and Assurance Enforcement Division

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:15 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

Subject: FW: USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request - RGV Border Barrier Construction

Attachments: EPA Comments for the USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request.pdf

From: Houston, Robert

<nogi.jill@epa.gov>

Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 3:52 PM

**To:** Timmermann, Timothy <Timmermann.Timothy@epa.gov>; Musumeci, Grace <Musumeci.Grace@epa.gov>; Mitchell, Judy-Ann <Mitchell.Judy-Ann@epa.gov>; Rudnick, Barbara <Rudnick.Barbara@epa.gov>; Lapp, Jeffrey <lapp.jeffrey@epa.gov>; Militscher, Chris <Militscher.Chris@epa.gov>; Westlake, Kenneth <westlake.kenneth@epa.gov>; Tapp, Joshua <Tapp.Joshua@epa.gov>; Strobel, Philip <Strobel.Philip@epa.gov>; Goforth, Kathleen <Goforth.Kathleen@epa.gov>; Dunning, Connell <Dunning.Connell@epa.gov>; Nogi, Jill

Cc: Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request - RGV Border Barrier Construction

All,

Attached is the CBP scoping letter that was mentioned during our bi-weekly NEPA Managers Only call.

**Robert Houston** 

Chief, Special Projects Section

Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (b) (6)

From: Houston, Robert

**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 2:26 PM

To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Cc: 'commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov' <commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov>; Hayden, Keith <Hayden.Keith@epa.gov>; Seager,

Cheryl <Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Gilrein, Stephen <gilrein.stephen@epa.gov>; Saunders, Jerry

<<u>Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov</u>>; Knight, Kelly <<u>knight.kelly@epa.gov</u>>; Blanco, Arturo <<u>Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov</u>>; Rincon,

Carlos < rincon.carlos@epa.gov >; Gray, David < gray.david@epa.gov >; Kasman, Mark < Kasman.Mark@epa.gov >; Jordan,

Marta < Jordan. Marta@epa.gov>; Almodovar, Lisa < Almodovar. Lisa@epa.gov>

Subject: USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request - RGV Border Barrier Construction

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**Robert Houston** 

Chief, Special Projects Section U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 (6EN-WS)

Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 Office: (214) 665-8565 Mobile: (b) (6)

eMail: houston.robert@epa.gov



### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 6 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75202-2733

JUL 27 2018

#### (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

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# $_{\rm Dear}$ (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

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Sincerely,

Cheryl T. Seager

Director

Compliance and Assurance Enforcement Division

From: Knight, Kelly

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:14 AM

To: Schaedle, Candi

Subject: FW: USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request - RGV Border Barrier Construction

From: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2018 12:21 AM

To: Houston, Robert < Houston. Robert@epa.gov>

**Cc:** COMMENTSENV <commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov>; Hayden, Keith <Hayden.Keith@epa.gov>; Seager, Cheryl

< Seager. Cheryl@epa.gov>; Gilrein, Stephen < gilrein. stephen@epa.gov>; Saunders, Jerry < Saunders. Jerry@epa.gov>; Saunders, Jerry < S

Knight, Kelly <knight.kelly@epa.gov>; Blanco, Arturo <Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>; Rincon, Carlos

<rincon.carlos@epa.gov>; Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Kasman, Mark <Kasman.Mark@epa.gov>; Jordan, Marta

<Jordan.Marta@epa.gov>; Almodovar, Lisa <Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>; CURTIS, IRMA <IRMA.CURTIS@cbp.dhs.gov>;

QUIAMBAO, VIRGINIA S < VIRGINIA.S.QUIAMBAO@cbp.dhs.gov>

**Subject:** RE: USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request - RGV Border Barrier Construction

Thank you Mr. Houston for the comments. We will incorporate EPA's recommendations for erosion control, waters of the US, and environmental justice in our environmental planning process.

From: Houston, Robert < Houston.Robert@epa.gov >

Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 12:26 PM

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Cc: COMMENTSENV <commentsenv@cbp.dhs.gov>; Hayden, Keith <Hayden.Keith@epa.gov>; Seager, Cheryl

<Seager.Cheryl@epa.gov>; Gilrein, Stephen <gilrein.stephen@epa.gov>; Saunders, Jerry <Saunders.Jerry@epa.gov>;

Knight, Kelly < <a href="mailto:knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov">knight.kelly@epa.gov</a>; Rincon, Carlos

<rincon.carlos@epa.gov>; Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Kasman, Mark <<u>Kasman.Mark@epa.gov</u>>; Jordan, Marta

<Jordan.Marta@epa.gov>; Almodovar, Lisa <Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>

Subject: USCBP FY 18 Border Wall Scoping Request - RGV Border Barrier Construction

#### (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

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**Robert Houston** 

Chief, Special Projects Section

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 (6EN-WS)

Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Office: (214) 665-8565

Mobile: (b) (6)

eMail: houston.robert@epa.gov

From: Knight, Kelly

**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:44 PM

To: Timmermann, Timothy; Musumeci, Grace; Mitchell, Judy-Ann; Lapp, Jeffrey; Rudnick, Barbara;

Militscher, Chris; Westlake, Kenneth; Houston, Robert; Tapp, Joshua; Strobel, Philip; Schuller,

Jennifer; Goforth, Kathleen; Dunning, Connell; Nogi, Jill

Cc: Trice, Jessica; Roemele, Julie; Barnhart, Megan; Hessert, Aimee; Suriano, Elaine; Rountree,

Marthea; Schaedle, Candi

**Subject:** Forecast report

Attachments: Project Forecast Report 23 July 2018.docx

I think I forgot to share this with you last week. My apologies.





